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1. SNB (Sbor Narodni Bezpecnosti - National Security Corps) troops were employed in towns and villages and their function was very similar to that of the local police force in the West, ie, to insure safety and order. Any subversive, anti-State activity had to be reported by the members of SNB to STB (Statni Tajna Bezpecnost - State Secret Police). Hamlets did not have SNB stations. The chain of command of SNB was Town Hqs, Rayon Hqs, District Hqs. I do not know the location of any of these headquarters and have no further information on the SNB.

2. The function of the STB was to protect the political system of the State, State secrets, and State functionaries. STB had headquarters in every large town; in each town the STB maintained its own casernes, automobiles, motorcycles, receiving, and transmitting stations.

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The vehicles had civilian license plates and members of STB always were civilian clothes. The STB collaborated with members of the Communist Party. In every town, large or small, in every office, factory, or any place where people gathered or worked, STB had its informers. Even a joke made at the expense of a government official would immediately be reported to the STB. This organization was known throughout Czechoslovakia as "the eyes and ears" of President Gottwald and his regime.

3. Immediately after World War II, units of OBZ (Obranne Zpravodajstvi - Defense Intelligence or Military Intelligence) were formed throughout the Czech Army. The designation of this organization was changed to DOZ (Dustojnik Obranneho Zpravodajstvi - Office of Defense Intelligence or Office of Military Intelligence) in 1947 or 1948.

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military unit and garrison contained one or two officers and one NCO of OBZ depending on the size of the regiment. If, however, the main part of the regiment was stationed in one town and one of its units was located in neighboring town or village, that unit also had its OBZ, usually composed of one officer who was sometimes assisted by one NCO. DOZ was represented at the Military School at Lipnik by a Major and a Sr Lt (names unknown) and at the QM School at Zilina by a Major and a Lt (names unknown). At both schools, the DOZ exercised great authority. COs of the schools had to cooperate in every way with DOZ officials. The COs had no right to interfere in any dispute their competence, or way with DOZ officials, even request an explanation of their actions, because the DOZ officials were directly subordinate to the Main Hqs of DOZ at the Ministry of National Defense in Prague. The members of DOZ at the military schools in Lipnik and Zilina usually wore civilian clothes. Only on special occasions, such as parades, were they attired in their uniforms. According to hearsay, these officers were assisted by the members of SCM (Svaz Ceskoslovenske Mladeze - Czechoslovak Youth League), whose duty was to report every movement of the teaching staff and school cadets, every word and action in classrooms or during field exercises, and even during their free time was liable to be reported. I have no further information on this organization, nor do I know any personalities connected with it.

I think that the Soviet Secret Service must have agents in Prague who have the power to interfere with or direct the DOZ and STB. Evidence of this was seen in the case of Sling (fnu) Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party for the Benesov Rayon. According to newspapers, Sling plotted to take over the leadership of the Communist Party in Czechoslovakia and make changes along the lines of Marshal Tito's regime. His co-conspirator was Marie Svermova, who held a responsible position in the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. Presumably the wife of Sling, while in London, unwittingly revealed that her husband was plotting with Marie Svermova. This was learned by Soviet Intelligence in London, communicated to Prague, and the STB placed Sling under surveillance until the plot was discovered and he and Marie Svermova were arrested.

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